

A BURNING QUESTION

WITH WHICH THE LEGISLATURE WILL WRESTLE.

The Internal Revenue Question Before a House Committee—The Fight Will Soon Be Made Before the House.

The internal revenue question continues to burn.

It is a burning question, one in which the people of the whole country, but particularly those of the south are deeply interested.

It is a question upon which the Georgia legislature will soon be put on record.

The question came up before the house committee on state of the republic yesterday, the question being on the reconstitution of the land of the committee last week in deciding to report adversely a resolution by Mr. Alford, of Pickens, requesting our representatives in congress to use their utmost endeavors to have the internal revenue laws repealed.

There was a pretty full attendance, and Hon. Morgan Rawls, chairman, presided.

After ascertaining that a quorum was present, the chairman stated that the committee had been called together to reconsider its action in agreeing to report adversely a resolution asking our representatives in congress to use their utmost endeavors to have the internal revenue laws repealed. He stated that at a recent meeting of the committee, six members had voted in favor of an adverse report, and four for a favorable report. He had seen all of the absent members from that meeting, and every one had assured him that they favored the resolution asking our representatives to endeavor to have the internal revenue laws repealed. He hoped that the resolution would be reconsidered so that there could be a free discussion.

Mr. Peacock moved to reconsider the action of the committee, and stated that he was not present at the last meeting, having been called home by sickness in his family.

Mr. Snellson moved to table the motion to reconsider.

Mr. Alford, the author of the resolution, appeared in the speakers' room and motion of Mr. Dugger was extended the floor. He said nine-tenths of the people of his section were in favor of the repeal of the "infamous law."

The democratic party indorsed the repeal in the platform of 1885, the same year that Cleveland was elected President. The republican party had also declared at its national convention last summer in favor of the repeal and both parties ought to be ashamed of themselves for not repealing the law before now. He thought the law unconstitutional because the constitution of the United States said that no man should be deprived of his life, liberty or property without due process of law.

"I want to see the time come," said Mr. Alford, "when the ninety thousand men who are now suffering from the country are not only not allowed to go to work like other people, but are not allowed to dispose of their own property as they see fit."

Mr. Snellson opposed a reconsideration in a very extensive speech. He said "free whisky" would ruin this country, and would absolutely paralyze the farming, manufacturing and commercial interests of the country.

Mr. Dugger disagreed with Mr. Snellson, and thought the revenue laws the worst piece of tyranny he ever heard of. "These revenue laws," said he, "who ride up through the mountains are the meanest set of men God ever let live, and it is a wonder to me he hasn't killed 'em all before now. Let's solve this thing a little now. We pass this resolution, it goes to congress that the people of Georgia demand that this infamous law be repealed. Let congress repeal it and when the repeal goes into effect ninety thousand men who have been leading and receiving money at the hands of the government monopoly ever created, will go to work as old Ben Dugger does."

"You talk about monopoly; what is a bigger monopoly than this whisky trust? I have always opposed this infamous business and my record in the legislature for the last fourteen years will show that. I have voted with the majority, in favor of its repeal. Let us reconsider the resolution."

Mr. Montgomery said he was in favor of the internal revenue law as a guard against drunkenness, and he saw nothing to gain by taking the tax off.

Mr. Dugger: "Ain't there more liquor made now than before the war?"

"I don't know whether there is or not," replied Mr. Montgomery.

"I don't guess they know how to make it in your country, do they?"

Mr. Montgomery took his seat. Mr. Dugger said they made ten times more liquor in his section now than they did before the war when there was no tax.

"It is not as good as it used to be either, is it?" asked Mr. Turner.

"Yes, it is pretty good yet. I try a little occasionally, but it ain't as good as it was when we could buy a bucket full fresh from the still for little or nothing."

"When Atlanta was dry she had to send up to the mountains for the whisky, and they told me the like was never known of the drunkenness here. The way I stand is, I believe the more whisky you have the less drunkenness there would be. If that river out yonder flowed in brandy and the banks were composed of sugar loaf a fellow wouldn't get off his horse to take a drink."

Mr. Snellson said he would insist on his motion to table the motion to reconsider.

The chairman stated that he was in hopes that the committee would reconsider in order that a report with a full attendance could be made.

Mr. Peacock said he was heartily in favor of reconsidering, and as he was absent from the last meeting he wanted to reconsider to vote for the resolution.

Mr. Turner said he was in favor of the resolution but opposed a reconsideration, as he preferred that the fight for the passage be made in the house.

The motion to table was lost by a vote of yeas 35, nays 35.

The resolution was then reconsidered. Those voting for a reconsideration were Messrs. Dugger, Fain, Peacock, Snead, Tanner, Vandever, &c. The chairman also favored a reconsideration but did not vote. Those voting against a reconsideration were Messrs. Murray, Stokes, Snellson, Montgomery, Turner, &c. The friends of the resolution then agreed to postpone further action on the resolution until today immediately after adjournment of the house. The resolution will no doubt receive a favorable report.

For Wounded Soldiers.

The house committee on appropriations at its meeting yesterday afternoon, took up the consideration of two bills providing for an increase in the compensation of wounded and disabled Confederate soldiers. The committee decided to report the two bills favorably by substitute. The substitute provides the following compensation for those Confederate soldiers injured in service who were citizens of the state October 20th, 1860: Total loss of sight, \$100; one eye lost, \$50; total loss of hearing, \$50; loss of foot or leg, \$100; loss of a hand or arm, \$100; loss of both hands or arms, \$150; loss of both feet or legs, \$150; loss of one hand or foot, or one arm or leg, \$100; for permanent injuries from wounds from which a leg or arm is rendered useless, \$50; loss of one finger, \$5; loss of two fingers, \$10; loss of three fingers, \$15; loss of four fingers, \$20; loss of four fingers and a thumb, \$25; for permanent injury not mentioned, from which a person has been practically rendered incompetent for the ordinary manual avocations of life, \$50.

The committee decided to recommend that the salary of the state librarian be increased from \$1,500 to \$1,700 per annum, and that the salary of the assistant be increased from \$500 to \$800 per annum.

The Appropriation Bill.

The general appropriation bill offered by Mr. Gordon, of Chatham, chairman of the committee on appropriations, will come up in the house this morning as a special order. The bill provides for the salaries of the state officials, officers, members and employees of the general assembly, judges of the supreme and superior court and solicitor-generals. The appropriation for the support of the public institutions as recommended by the committee on appropriations are:

Academy for the blind \$10,000.

Institute for the deaf and dumb, \$15,000 per annum.

State lunatic asylum, \$180,000 per annum.

State insane asylum, \$180,000 per annum.

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annum, he expended only when directed by the board of trustees, and the governor is authorized to make monthly a safe advance to cover the cost of supplies and incidental expenses of said asylum. Provided that the governor shall require of the superintendent and resident physician an itemized statement monthly of all the expenditures, which statement shall be approved by a quorum of the board of trustees of said asylum; and that no part of this sum shall be used for building purposes.

For the State university at Athens, the sum of \$8,000 per annum.

For payment of the interest known as the land scrip fund, and due the University of Georgia, \$6,344.14 per annum.

To the State university for the support and maintenance of the school of technology, \$18,000 for the year 1890.

To the State university for the branch college at Dahlonega, \$3,000 per annum.

To the State university for the branch college at Marietta, \$2,000 per annum.

To the State university for the branch college at Thomasville, \$2,000 per annum.

It is the desire of the friends of the university to secure an appropriation of \$5,000 to repair the buildings at Athens, but they have not decided whether they will attempt it this session.

The following appropriations are recommended to pay the valid debt of the state:

To pay bonds maturing January 1st, 1889, \$2,141,000; to pay the interest falling due in 1889, \$40,000; to pay the bonds maturing October 1st, 1890, \$2,068,000; to pay the interest falling due in 1890, \$40,000.

Under the bill the railroad commissioners get \$2,500 per annum, and the clerk of the commission \$1,500. The sum of \$81,275 is appropriated to the business of the railroad contractors of the new capital. The bill is quite lengthy, and it is probable that it will consume today and tomorrow's session.

A Resolution of Sympathy.

Senator Whitfield offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Whereas, The Hon. John H. Sledge, of the senate from the forty-second, the Hon. J. W. Harris, Jr., and his wife, have died, and the sweet companionship, tender devotion and living presence of his wife, is no more.

Resolved, That we tender our hearty condolence to our brother senator in his deep bereavement, assuring him that we will do all in our power to lift the burden of his suffering from his heart. If it rested with us, but by the inevitable laws of heaven the sorrow has fallen, and we can only trust that our sympathy may serve to soothe and console his grief, and enable him to bear his affliction with patience.

Resolved further, That a copy of these resolutions be furnished the senator from the forty-second district.

The Time Extended.

In the house, the resolution by Mr. Lamar, of Richmond, to authorize an extension of the time for the completion of the new capitol until April 1st, 1890, was taken up. Mr. Lamar explained that the resolution was in accordance with the recommendation of the governor. There would be no additional expense by the extension of time, and the commissioner would receive no salary for their additional service.

Mr. Simmons, of Sumter, offered an amendment to the resolution, which was adopted, providing that the committee consent in writing to such extension of time before the 1st day of January, 1890.

The resolution was then passed—yeas 113, nays 1.

Senate Routine.

In the senate yesterday, Mr. Bradwell offered a joint resolution in reference to the invitation of Hon. J. L. M. Curry to address the general assembly on the public school system, and fixing the date of the month, at 12 m., as the time for the delivery of the address.

A number of bills were read the second time.

BILLS PASSED.

To authorize and regulate the construction of tramways by persons or companies engaged in saw milling or mining, across tracks of railway companies.

To amend the registration law of the town of Waycross.

To repeal an act providing for the registration of voters in Macon county.

To incorporate the Atlanta Exchange and Banking company.

To incorporate the Duffie Banking company.

To incorporate the Georgia Loan and Trust company.

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